

Welcome to this year's Generosity Week newsletter

Although this newsletter came into being through Generosity Week (this year 28 September until 5 October), it's become a handy little digest of things you might find helpful in exploring generosity with your church, whether you intend to have a Generosity Week or not. So do read on, let us know what you'd like to see, and forward to a friend who would like to sign up.

Generosity Week 'Light'

If you don't have the resources to invest in a fuller Generosity Week, you can still make a great impact by concentrating on just a few core elements.

- Sign up to the <u>Parish Giving Scheme</u> so that any new regular gifts have the option to be increased with inflation, and to give you a steady stream of Gift Aid without additional admin.
- Consider contactless giving, and if you have already got a device, make sure you're maximising its potential.
- On the first Sunday of your week, focus on Gratitude. This service pack suggests songs, prayers, readings and sermon starters.
- If you think your congregation would welcome something to help them reflect during the week, and you don't have midweek groups, you could encourage them to listen to Living Generously talks. (The talks are also on the CofE's Everyday Faith app.)
- Preach the following Sunday around Generosity with a clear ask of what you would like people to do. Again, there are ideas here, here, but you might also find this blog from St Mary le Tower in Ipswich helpful.



CORNERSTONE

Cornerstone is an online generosity tool available free of charge to all Church of England churches.

Insights

Using Parish Returns data, it's designed to help churches develop the most detailed picture they've ever had of their financial situation whether that's a source of joy or concern.

Grants database

Celebrating a Generous Easter

Cornerstone also offers more than 50 pathways to help you plot steps towards a more generous culture. New for Easter is Celebrating a Generous Easter which helps you engage less frequent visitors as well as your regular congregation.

> To sign up to Cornerstone and access the pathway, contact your Giving Advisor.

Generosity Week News is produced by the Giving directorate at the National Church Institutions. If you'd like to get in touch please email us: giving@churchofengland.org Read our Generosity blog

